

NCDOT Division One Equipment Tie Down and Towing Guide

Equipment Tie-down

1. All chain used must be grade 80. If a lower grade chain is found, it must be sent to the Equipment Department for disposal. On/or about every 10th link will have an 8 or 80 stamped on it to verify Grade 80 chain.
2. Four (4) tie-down points shall be used for all equipment hauled.
3. Buckets and other attachments that swivel must be tied down with a separate chain(s).
4. The weight and the length of the equipment to be hauled determines the size and number of tie-downs required. Consult Operator's Manual or Manufacturer's stamp for weight of each piece of equipment to be hauled.
 - 3/8" Grade 80 chain has a working load limit of 7,100 lbs.
 - 1/2" Grade 80 chain has a working load limit of 12,750 lbs.
 - In addition to the tie-down weight requirements, a chain must be placed for every 10' of length.
 - See skill based pay manuals such as low boy and trailer (tow type) for additional information.
5. Use the Weights of Equipment guide, created by Ricky Feher, as a reference to determine appropriate number of tie downs and size of chain to use when transporting various equipment. If in doubt, call Ricky for assistance.

Equipment Towing

For equipment that has lost traction, but is not fully stuck:

1. 3/8" Grade 80 chain or cable shall be used for pick-up trucks or smaller equipment.
2. 1/2" Grade 80 chain or cable shall be used for heavy equipment such as dump trucks.

Equipment can be damaged if not handled properly. The Equipment Department shall be contacted for assistance when any equipment is completely stuck. The Equipment Department has more resources for these type situations.

NEVER try to SNATCH a vehicle or equipment out of a stuck situation. The stress on the chain or cable could cause them to snap and cause injury to those in the area. Stand clear of any vehicle being pulled until chain or cable is slack.